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BULLETIN

OF THE

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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YOUR PERSONAL DUTY

THE members of the Committee on Headquarters of the American Library Association present this appeal to its membership.

For many years the Association worked only through annual conferences and unpaid committees. In 1906 it was deemed necessary, in order to give effective aid and unity to the work of local associations, to establish national headquarters, with a permanent staff.

These headquarters, opened in September, 1906, have already begun to do excellent work, and have demonstrated their usefulness.

To continue the enlarged work thus opened, it is necessary to have an increase of income. The Publishing Board has the Carnegie Fund, but its deed of gift prohibits the Board from using either the principal or the interest for the administrative purposes of the Association. With the exception of the old Endowment Fund, amounting to about \$6,500.00, the interest of which is small, the Association can rely for income on membership dues only. The income from this source at the present time is not sufficiently large to maintain and properly develop work through Headquarters. The only way to increase our income is for every member to do earnest missionary work.

Every librarian, assistant and trustee, whether now enrolled in a local association or not, ought to be a member of the American Library Association, even though he cannot attend conferences. His fellowship will help the cause, his small annual payment will sustain national work, and his membership will entitle him to advice and aid in his professional problems. We ask each of our members to earnestly present this view to all the librarians and trustees he meets, at once, thus aiding in an enlargement of our membership.

Each librarian, too, should with earnestness place before his trustees his strong advocacy of our desire to increase library membership. Until now the library

membership fee of \$5.00 was in the nature of a gratuity, many trustees thinking that they could not lawfully vote the money from public funds. This year, however, a *quid pro quo* is provided.

The reply has often been made when libraries have been approached to join the Association that they were already receiving the volume of *Proceedings* through their subscription to the *Library Journal*, and that one or more free copies of the *Booklist* was reaching members of their staff through membership in the A. L. A. It is now proposed that libraries which join the Association, paying an annual fee of \$5.00, shall receive in return free copies of the *Booklist*, the *Bulletin* and the *Proceedings*, and that neither the *Proceedings* nor the *Bulletin* shall be distributed to those who are not members of the Association. This places the trustees of a library in the position where they can rightfully and lawfully appropriate \$5.00 a year in payment of helpful literature which they receive.

We appeal, therefore, to each member of the American Library Association to make every effort towards a largely increased membership, a closer fellowship among the library workers throughout the country and an increase of income which will enable the Association to be of greater service to its membership and to the general library movement of the United States.

D. P. COREY

CHARLES C. SOULE

GARDNER M. JONES

Committee on Headquarters

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President, CLEMENT W. ANDREWS, *John Crerar Library, Chicago, Ill.*
Treasurer, GEORGE F. BOWERMAN, *Public Library, Washington, D. C.*
Secretary, J. I. WYER, JR., *State Library, Albany, N. Y.*

THE ASHEVILLE CONFERENCE

Program Committee

The twenty-ninth annual conference of the American Library Association will be held at Asheville, N. C., from Thursday, May 23, to Wednesday, May 29, inclusive. The Association has been glad to accept the invitation of our Southern members and friends, in the hope that the meeting may be as helpful to them as they expect, and in the certainty that their cordial welcome and the natural attractions of the country cannot fail to make it most pleasant to all.

The program has been based upon two or three leading principles. Believing that the greatest benefit is derived from the informal discussions of the meetings of the affiliated societies, sections and round tables, liberal provision has been made for these, and the general sessions have been limited to five, one each morning. At these general sessions there are to be two chief topics. The first is a review of the Southern library movement since the Atlanta Conference in 1899. A general paper on the subject will be followed by a series of shorter papers presenting the special conditions of each state. The other chief topic is the use of books. This will be discussed in a series of papers on the special points for different classes, both of books and of readers. Among the former may be mentioned